

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 03186 100847Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 CU-04 IO-13 /088 W  
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R 100729Z MAR 78  
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9374  
INFO USLO PEKING PRIORITY  
CINCPAC  
FBIS  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 3186

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINR, PINT, CH  
SUBJECT: CPPCC CLOSING: TENG NEW CHAIRMAN

REF: A) HONG KONG 3167; B) HONG KONG 3127; C) PEKING 637;  
D) PEKING 617

SUMMARY. THE CONCLUSION OF THE CPPCC SESSION MARKED A  
PERSONAL TRIUMPH FOR TENG HSIAO-PING WITH HIS EMERGENCE  
AS A "CHAIRMAN" IN HIS OWN RIGHT. UNTIL THE CPPCC BEGINS  
TO FUNCTION, HOWEVER, THE ACTUAL IMPORTANCE OF THE BODY  
WILL NOT BE CLEAR DESPITE ITS CHARTER TO "ADVISE" AND  
"MUTUALLY SUPERVISE" THE PARTY AND STATE AT ALL LEVELS  
AND TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP IN UNITED FRONT ACTIVITIES.

END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 HONG K 03186 100847Z

1. AS PROJECTED EARLIER (HONG KONG 2529), TENG  
HSIAO-PING TOOK ON TOP RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE POLITICAL  
CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE (CPPCC) WITH HIS MARCH 7 ELECTION  
AS CHAIRMAN. TENG'S DEPUTIES ON THE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ARE VIRTUALLY ALL CLOSE SUPPORTERS AND THE COMMUNIST  
PARTY CADRE REPRESENTATION IN THE CPPCC READS LIKE A

"WHO'S WHO" OF PARTY VETERANS WITH LINKS TO TENG.

2. TENG'S ASCENSION TO THE POST OF CHAIRMAN SHOULD NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED SINCE IT PUTS HIM ON A SYMBOLIC PAR WITH HUA IN TERMS OF TITLES (CHU HSI). AS THE INHERITOR OF CHOU'S MANTLE IN THIS JOB, HE IS ALSO TAKING ON AN IMPORTANT SYMBOLIC ROLE FOR THE VETERAN CADRE. ON THE BASIS OF INFLUENCE AND PERSONAL AUTHORITY, THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT MAO WAS THE DOMINANT PARTNER IN THE MAO-CHOU LEADERSHIP. BUT NOW, EVEN WITH YEH CHIEN-YING ON HUA'S SIDE IN THE HUA-TENG SUCCESSION TEAM, TENG HAS A SHARE OF POWER AT LEAST EQUAL TO THAT OF THE OTHER TWO.

3. WHILE WE CANNOT ASSESS THE FULL IMPACT OF THE CPPCC'S IMPORTANCE UNTIL IT BEGINS TO FUNCTION, THERE IS IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADVISING PARTY AND STATE ORGANS AT ALL LEVELS AND LEADERSHIP IN UNITED FRONT WORK. THE CPPCC HAS IMPORTANT DOMESTIC AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DUTIES WHICH CORRESPOND TO RESPONSIBILITIES EXERCISED BY TENG IN THE POLITBURO STANDING COMMITTEE -- FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND EDUCATION. ON THE FOREIGN POLICY SIDE, PEKING'S EFFORTS TO WOO OVERSEAS CHINESE OPINION ON THE TAIWAN ISSUE IS LIKELY TO BE PARAMOUNT.

4. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE ORGANIZATION WILL TAKE ON KEY  
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PAGE 03 HONG K 03186 100847Z

DUTIES FOR THE COORDINATION OF WORK WITH INTELLECTUALS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE CHINA. MUCH OF THIS WILL BE GEARED TO CONVINCING THE INTELLECTUALS TO PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN CHINA'S DEVELOPMENT PLANS, A ROLE WHICH WE FEEL IS SIGNIFICANT. PUBLICATION OF A JOINT PEOPLE'S DAILY, RED FLAG AND LIBERATION ARMY DAILY EDITORIAL TO MARK THE CLOSING ALSO APPEARS TO UNDERSCORE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CPPCC.

5. WE WOULD EXPECT FROM THE RANKING OF CPPCC LEADERS THAT WEI KUO-CHING WILL TAKE ON THE DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES OF MANAGING THE CPPCC MUCH AS WE PROJECTED ULANFU WOULD ASSUME THOSE DUTIES FOR THE NPC (HONG KONG 2625). ALFTER LONG PERIODS OF INACTIVITY, YEH CHIN-YING'S BROTHER, YEH TAO-YING, HAS RESURFACED AS A MEMBER OF THE CPPCC STANDING COMMITTEE. THE YOUNGER YEH WAS HEAVILY INVOLVED IN HONG KONG/MACAO REAL ESTATE IN THE EARLY 1950'S AND WAS A MEMBER OF THE NON-PARTY "PATRIOTIC PERSONAGES" DELEGATION AT THE RECENT CPPCC SESSION.  
SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARTY LEADERS, POLITICAL PARTIES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Expiration:**  
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**Reference:** 78 HONG KONG 3167, 78 HONG KONG 3127, 78 PEKING 637  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Subject:** CPPCC CLOSING: TENG NEW CHAIRMAN  
**TAGS:** PINR, PINT, CH, (TENG HSIAO-PING)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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